

Digidesign Authorized Pro Schools

A *Digidesign-Authorized Pro School™* is a professional recurrent training facility that incorporates Digidesign hardware/software, Digidesign-certified training materials, and a Digidesign-trained and certified Instructor to teach specific Digidesign 100-, 200- and 300-level courses.

Two main distinctions are made between DCTLs and Pro Schools:

1. Courses at Pro Schools offer multi-day sessions of intensive training focused entirely on Pro Tools. These courses are stand-alone, making them easier and more adaptable to professionals seeking concise and succinct Pro Tools education. Pro Tools training materials at Pro Schools are NOT incorporated into a larger audio program, whereas most DCTLs will incorporate Digidesign training materials into larger programs.
2. A Pro School is unique in that it is the only place 300-level Digidesign courses will be available — making Pro Schools the exclusive administrators of certified Pro Tools Expert training.

Becoming an Authorized Pro School involves an in-depth approval process, and fulfillment of the minimum requirements described below in addition to the requirements of a DCTL. Pro Schools must offer courses regularly, in multi-day formats, either during the course of a week or spread out over weekends, to accommodate professionals' work schedules. Upon completion of top-level courses at a Pro School, a student has the option to take an online test at <http://training.digidesign.com/> to qualify for certification as a Pro Tools Expert. (Note: the student must already possess a Pro Tools Operator

certificate before being allowed to take a Pro Tools Expert test). Benefits of the Pro Tools Expert certification are described in depth in an accompanying section titled 'Pro Tools Expert.' The expert courses are broken into Music or Post concentrations and are described further in a section entitled 'Digidesign Certified 300-Level Courses.' Pro Schools may also offer 100- and 200-level training in this multi-day format. More details can be found in the sections titled 'Digidesign-Certified 200-Level Courses' and 'Pro Tools Operator.'

Digidesign will consider some AAECs or DCTLs to be Pro Schools if expert courses are offered outside of their normal programs at regular intervals and that instructors are trained and certified for those levels. Instructors at Pro Schools can be certified by Digidesign for any 100, 200, or 300-level course(s), but they may only teach courses up to their certification level. To discuss becoming a Pro School or a Pro School Instructor, please contact your Digidesign Education representative.

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Benefits of Becoming a Digidesign Authorized Pro School.

Pro Schools will be entitled to all the benefits available to DCTLs (see section titled 'DCTL' in this package). Additional benefits of being an authorized Pro School include:

1. Use of 300-level Digidesign-certified course materials
2. Student eligibility to be certified by Digidesign as a Pro Tools Expert
3. Marketing positioning as the ultimate professional training facility for Pro Tools training

Requirements to Become a Digidesign Authorized Pro School

In addition to meeting all DCTL requirements (see section titled 'DCTL' in this package), additional requirements include:

1. Digidesign hardware specific to expert-level courses
2. Specific Digidesign hardware/software for each student
3. 300-level Instructor certification
4. Provision of certificates of completion to students after successful completion of courses
5. Resources to enable students to take the online Pro Tools Expert certification test upon successful completion of expert courses
6. Offering Digidesign resellers and Sponsored Schools Instructor training at a reduced cost

Pro School Benefits Explained

Please note all DCTL benefits apply to Pro Schools.

Use of Digidesign-Certified Course Materials

Pro Schools are the only authorized facilities to teach 300-level certified Digidesign courses, and are also the only institutions in which a student may be trained to take the online Pro Tools Expert certification test. In all materials, Digidesign markets Pro Schools as being unique in this regard.

Student Eligibility to Be Certified by Digidesign as a Pro Tools Expert

An important part of hosting Digidesign 300-level courses is providing students with the opportunity to take the certification test to become a Pro Tools Expert. Upon successful completion of these course(s), Instructors may upload student class lists or individual student profiles via <http://training.digidesign.com>, enabling students to take our online certification test. Students have three chances to pass, as the timed test will not be easy. A score of 90% or better must be achieved in order to pass. This process

will help ensure that students acquiring the Pro Tools Expert title possess the skills needed to quickly and efficiently operate a Pro Tools TDM system at a performance level far beyond that of an assistant engineer or entry-level editor.

Marketing Positioning as the Ultimate Training Facility for Pro Tools Education

Pro Schools are the ultimate training facilities for professionals and future pros alike. Expert-level Digidesign courses are meant to instill maximum Pro Tools efficiency in students, and substantially exceed the capability and value associated with the Pro Tools Operator title in the music or post community. Pro Schools are the institutions to attend in order to receive intensely thorough Pro Tools-specific training.

Pro Schools have a designated logo from Digidesign, which may be used in a wide variety of marketing materials once an institution has become certified. All certified Instructors will also be granted permission to utilize the

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Digidesign-Certified Instructor logo. Students completing a course and passing their online test will be given the right to use the Pro Tools Expert logo for their own purposes (business cards, etc.). Logos for Pro Schools and Instructors can be found at <http://training.digidesign.com>. In addition

to logo usage, all Pro Schools, Certified Instructors and Pro Tools Experts will be listed and promoted via <http://www.digipronet.com> and <http://training.digidesign.com>, affording them increased exposure and promotion through these programs.

Pro School Requirements Explained

Please note all DCTL requirements apply to Pro Schools.

Additional Required Digidesign Hardware/Software Specific to 300-Level Courses

Pro School facilities are required to install certain equipment outlined in the section titled 'Digidesign-Certified 300-Level Courses.' TDM-based Pro Tools systems with options for music and post include, but are not limited to, the following: AVoption|XL, ProControl, Control|24 and various software components. A complete list of equipment required for each music or post track for these courses can be obtained from your Digidesign Education Contact.

Specific Digidesign Hardware/Software for Each Student

As the Pro School program is designed to prepare students to become highly efficient Pro Tools Experts, a lower number of students-per-system is required. The goal of expert-level training and certification as a Pro Tools Expert is to equip a student with the competency required to run a Pro Tools TDM system in a professional environment as proficiently as possible. 300-level courses require a TDM-based Pro Tools system for every student for their exercises during lectures, as well as for lab time. Systems must also be made available for further hands-on experience. Pro Schools must also carry specific Digidesign hardware and software appropriate to the Music or Post (or both) concentration offered. The list may be found in the institution's contract with Digidesign.

Instructor Certification from Digidesign

As described above, Pro School Instructors must be certified by Digidesign. In order to do this, prospective Instructors must attend a "train-the-trainer" course and successfully pass an exam consisting of questions from the online Pro Tools Expert test.

Providing a Certificate of Completion to a Student after Successful Completion of Courses

Upon a student's successful completion of 300-level Digidesign courses, a Pro School must provide a student with a certification of completion. This certificate can take the form of a school diploma, a school certificate or an individualized Pro School certificate, giving the student an appropriate record of their successful completion of Expert-level Digidesign training.

Enabling Students to Take an Online Digidesign Certification Test upon Successful Completion of Course(s).

As described in the above paragraph, a student is not required to complete a test online to receive a certificate of completion from a Pro School. However, the student must be given the opportunity to acquire the Pro Tools Expert title by taking an online test at <http://training.digidesign.com> after their successful completion of their 300-level courses. The Instructor or other Key Contact at the Pro School facilitates this by uploading the class list or individual student profiles to the Digidesign training site. Once Digidesign has received the student(s) information, the Instructor should inform the student(s) that they are now eligible to take the online test. It is necessary — and the sole responsibility of the Instructor — to upload student profiles to <http://training.digidesign.com> in order to afford students the opportunity to test.

Instructors (or the Key Contact) at a Pro School are given a password to access a special area on <http://training.digidesign.com> to upload class lists or individual student profiles for Pro Tools Expert online testing access. Once these students' profiles are uploaded with their name, email address and a temporary password (this password is emailed to them), they are activated and thereby permitted to take the exam. More specific details and assistance for Instructors can be found by contacting your Digidesign Education Contact.

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Offering Reduced-Cost Training to Digidesign Resellers

Digidesign trains our reseller network to sell Pro Tools. Often this training only whets the appetite for increased knowledge pertinent to the operation and functionality of Pro Tools, frequently resulting in dealer employees seeking further training. A responsibility of every Pro School facility is allowing these dealer employees to enroll in courses at a reduced cost while they are employed by one of our resellers. Digidesign will subsidize this cost by allowing the purchase of course materials at a reduced cost. We encourage

Pro Schools to offer a substantial training discount to these dealer employees, although the extent of the discount is determined at their discretion. This process can succeed in procuring future students, as once these dealer employees experience Pro School training, they are very likely to recommend the same services to their customers. Digidesign also requests the same for Instructors of our Sponsored School program. However, these Instructors need only to take the Pro Tools 100-level course, as it is pertinent to the level they are teaching.